IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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(Formerly 05213-

0272)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2003, please enter the amendments and consider the remarks below. Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 16-1150. A copy of this sheet is enclosed for such purpose.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 23 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 27 of this paper.